## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Im a Application of: FREDERICK M. MAKO, ET AL. Serial No. 10/773,516 Filed: February 5, 2004 Art Unit: 1791 Patent Examiner: Michael N. Orlando Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213 March 8, 2010 Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action dated May 11, 2009, please enter the following remarks to the above-identified application as follows.